


4,947,101) is requested in view of the amendments to claims 1 and 5 and for the following reasons.

Claims 1 and 5 have been amended to include the limitation that a time constant circuit is connected between the voltage from the bus and the two comparator circuits in order to remove the dc component of the bus voltage such that only the transient spike voltages are detected. As the Examiner points out, the McVey patent does not teach a circuit for detecting transient voltages and therefore does not disclose a time constant circuit for blocking the dc component of the bus voltage. In the McVey patent the comparator circuits 32 and 34 are connected to bus 20 only through resistors R2, R3 and R4 and therefore all the dc components of the bus voltage are applied to the comparators 32 and 32. This is a fundamental difference between the applicants' claims which are directed to a system for detecting system faults, as evidenced by voltage spikes, and the McVey apparatus which is a switching voltage regulator that merely detects voltage levels, including dc level.

Applicants assert that amended claims 1 and 5 now are patentable over the prior art references and allowable amended claims 2-4 and 6-8 respectively dependent thereon are now in accordance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112.

In conclusion, applicants request the allowance of the present application including amended claims 1-8.

Respectfully submitted,



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